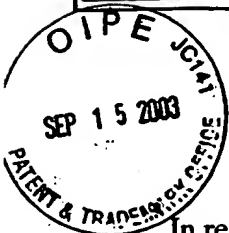


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: ROBERT C. SIMPSON

Group Art Unit: 3763

Serial No.: 09/989342

Examiner:

Confirmation No.: 5345

Atty. Dkt. No.: 13421.0002.NPUS00

Filed: November 20, 2001

For: AN EPIDURAL CATHETER SYSTEM
TO CONTAIN AND CONTROL AN
EPIDURAL CATHETER, MAINTAIN
EPIDURAL CATHETER STERILITY
AND PREVENT EPIDURAL CATHETER
CONTAMINATION

RECEIVED
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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(b)(3)

Mail Stop
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

| CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R. 1.8 | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA, 22313-1450, on the date below: | |
| <u>9/11/03</u> Date | <u>[Signature]</u> Signature |

Sirs:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure and candor under 37 C.F.R. 1.56 (a), the undersigned representative submits with this paper patents, patent applications, publications, and other materials and information that may be material to the examination of the above noted patent application.

The present Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits, and hence is believed to be timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. However, The Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee or any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 01-2508/13421.0002.NPUS00.

The undersigned representative requests that this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement be accepted under 37 CFR 1.97(b)(4).

☒ The Examiner's attention is specifically brought to printed material information has been listed on enclosed PTO FORM 1449 of which there is 1 page. A copy of each listed item is also enclosed.

The undersigned representative requests that an initialed copy of the enclosed FORM 1449 be entered into the application file wrapper and returned to the undersigned with the next communication from the Office.

☒ In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), Applicant hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the present statement, as evidenced by the date of the enclosed International Search Report mailed September 4, 2003.

The filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search of the prior art has been made, or an admission that the information cited is or is considered to be, material to the patentability, or that no other material information exists. The filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. [37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)]

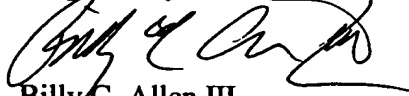
Serial No.: 09/989342
Confirmation No.: 5345
Applicant: ROBERT C. SIMPSON
Atty. Ref.: 13421.0002.NPUS00

The undersigned representative requests any extension of time that may be deemed necessary to further the prosecution of this application.

The undersigned representative authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 01-2508, referencing Order No. 13421.0002.NPUS01.

In order to facilitate the resolution of any issues or questions presented by this paper, the Examiner should directly contact the undersigned by phone to further the discussion.

Respectfully submitted,



Billy C. Allen III
Reg. No. 46,147
Tel. 713.787.1400

Date:

09/11/03